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Newsletter

March 1998

Volume 40

Number 2

A Note From the Administrator:

PLEASE RETURN



At our recent 31st Annual Governor's Conference Mayor Pat Owens and LT. Byron Sieber of Grand Forks, North Dakota presented a heart felt story about their catastrophic flooding. After the presentation, I was thankful Montana did not experience what they did, and I was impressed by their cooperation and ability to respond to the overwhelming circumstances they endured. They face several years of challenging recovery work that may prove more difficult than the original response. Hopefully, we can all capitalize on their lessons learned as we prepare for the future.



Important Notice!!

Effective March 15, 1998, the new telephone number for the State Disaster and Emergency Services Office will change to

8(406) 841-3911.

The warmer and drier than normal winter season has been enjoyable for most of us with hopefully little future consequences. Even though we speculate on little or no flooding and perhaps an early fire season, there are no givens. We are looking forward to the reduced potential for flooding after the last two years. It behooves us to continue to improve our preparedness efforts and look for mitigation opportunities.

"It behooves us to continue to improve our preparedness efforts and look for mitigation opportunities."

We hope you have a safe and productive spring season.

Jim Greene

Administrator



**STATE OF MONTANA
DISASTER & EMERGENCY SERVICES**



We're finally back on track with the newsletter. We publish quarterly so if you are interested in contributing, the deadlines are February 15 for the March edition, May 15 for the June edition, August for the September edition and November 15 for the December edition. This information is always included on the back page if you ever forget. Lately we have had a substantial increase in the amount of contributions. Keep it up! The newsletter is more informative and interesting for everyone when we share our important events and other appealing tidbits.

Editor Notes



Until Next Time!
Monique T. Lay

Thank You!

Thank you to the following individuals for contributing to this newsletter:

Jim Greene, Marlys Cain, Fred Cowie, Bill Thomas, Dan McGowan, Deb Ranum, and Homer Young



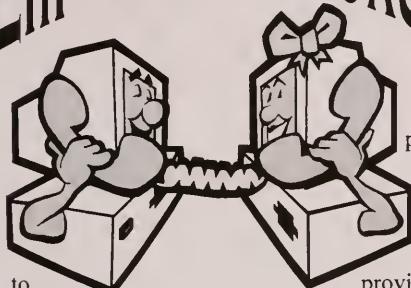
Weather or Not!

Avalanches, Asian markets,
traffic jams in Spain,
Armed insurgents, weak detergents
- El Niño gets the blame.
We didn't use to look for blame
when man or nature sinned,
But now we've got a scapegoat,
and its blowin' in the wind.

Phil Lerman and
Jack Sherman



EIIP VIRTUAL FORUM



Whether you are a potential student or a potential instructor, the Internet represents new possibilities in distance learning. For Emergency Management, this may represent an opportunity to bring MORE training, to MORE people, at LESS Cost.

The Emergency Information Infrastructure Partnership (EIIP), in its continuing effort to provide a Virtual Forum for the exchange of information and ideas, begins a series on this topic, January 14, 12:00 Noon (EST). with an online presentation by Dennis Hickethier, of FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI). Mr. Hickethier will be joined by course instructor, Dr. Sue Mettlen, and student, Richard Muth, to discuss EMI's initial experience with a Web-based course.

To participate, use the following link:
<http://www.emforum.org/vclas/011498.htm>

For detailed instructions and background information:
<http://www.emforum.org/vclass/claschat.htm>

View the course Website at: <http://www.esper.com/mettlen/idc/default.htm>

Recent studies demonstrate we learn not only from formal training classes, but also informally by sharing experiences both good and bad, failures as well as successes.



NOTE: Although the date for this training opportunity has come and passed, you may still wish to view the website and plan to participate in future courses.



Dear Fire Departments & EMS Providers:

Please forward to me any successful fundraising concepts you have used to help pay for capital improvements -- buildings, trucks, ambulances, equipment, etc. I am attempting to put together a pamphlet for use by Montana Fire Departments and EMS providers on creative fundraising. I am interested in anything from names of foundations which have awarded grants, to ideas about ways to get surplus and excess equipment from the private sector, government, etc., to hometown fundraisers that have been both effective and efficient. Please give specific enough citations that I can run the ideas down, and give me your name, phone number, mail address and e-mail address so I can get a hold of you for more details if necessary.

You can send your ideas to me either e-mail -

[<fcowie@mt.gov>](mailto:fcowie@mt.gov)

OR:

Fred Cowie
Grants Management Program Manager
1100 North Main
P.O. Box 4789
Helena, MT 59604-4789

Suicide after Natural Disasters

Etienne G. Krug, Marcie-Jo Kresnow,

John P. Peddicord, Linda L. Dahlberg, Kenneth

E. Powell, Alex E. Crosby, Joseph L. Annest

Abstract

Background. Among the victims of floods, earthquakes, and hurricanes, there is an increased prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder and depression, which are risk factors for suicidal thinking. We conducted this study to determine whether natural disasters affect suicide rates.

Methods. From a list of all the events declared by the U.S. government to be federal disasters between 1982 and 1989, we selected the 377 counties that had each been affected by a single natural disaster during that period. We collected data on suicides during the 36 months before and the 48 months after the disaster and aligned the data around the month of the disaster. Pooled rates were calculated according to the type of disaster. Comparisons were made between the suicide rates before and those after disasters in the affected counties and in the entire United States.

Results. Suicide rates increased in the four years after floods by 13.8 percent, from 12.1 to 13.8 per 100,000 ($P < 0.001$); in the two years after hurricanes by 31.0 percent, from 12.0 to 15.7 per 100,000 ($P < 0.001$); and in the first year after earthquakes by 62.9 percent, from 19.2 to 31.3 per 100,000 ($P < 0.001$). The four-year increase of 19.7 percent after earthquakes was not statistically significant. Rates computed in a similar manner for the entire United States were stable. The increases in suicide rates were found for both sexes and for all age groups. The suicide rates did not change significantly after tornadoes or severe storms.

Conclusions. Our study shows that suicide rates increase after severe earthquakes, floods, and hurricanes and confirms the need for mental health support after severe disasters. (N Engl J Med 1998; 338:373-8.)



Source Information

From the Epidemic Intelligence Service (E.G.K.), the Office of Statistics and Programming (M.K., J.P.P., J.L.A.), and the Division of Violence Prevention (E.G.K., L.L.D., K.E.P., A.E.C.), National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta.

Address reprint requests to Dr. Krug at
Mailstop K-60
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
4770 Buford Highway
Atlanta, GA 30341.

To place an order for the full article, you can call 1-800-THE-NEJM.

For information regarding mental health support following a disaster, contact your local Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) Team or contact the State DES Office at (406) 444-6911 for a list of available teams throughout the state.

Montana Public Safety Radio Project Update

The Montana Communications project consists of three Phases. Phase I was completed by the Public Safety Communications Task Force with the assistance of the Warner Communications Group. Phase I came to a close on May 29, 1997 and produced the "Public Safety Communications Concept Design". This Concept Design includes an action plan which is the template for Phase II.

The first step of Phase II was to contract with a consultant firm to complete several of the action items listed in the Concept Design. Spectrum Resources, Inc. (SRI) of St Charles, Missouri was awarded this contract in December of 1997. SRI will develop a detailed system design, establish frequency coordination requirements, a cost

analysis, and write the Request for Proposal (RFP) to select a vendor(s) to install the system.

Governor Marc Racicot appointed members to the Montana Public Safety Communications Council in November 1997. One of the Council's tasks will be to oversee the activities of SRI throughout Phase II. The Council is also charged with developing a permanent governance structure capable of managing and operating the new shared radio system on a day-to-day basis.



The Council members are:

Ms. Lois Menzies, Director	Department of Administration
Mr. Mike Meldahl, Vice President	Montana Power Company
Mr. Dennis Taylor, City Manager	City of Helena
Mr. Mike Griffith, Commissioner	Lewis and Clark County
Mr. William S. Strizich	U.S. Marshall
Mr. John Blacker, Administrator	Department of Transportation
Mr. Larry Fasbender, Deputy Director	Department of Justice
Mr. Bob Jones, Chief	Great Falls Police Department
Mr. Bill Slaughter, Sheriff	Gallatin County
Mr. Drew Dawson, Supervisor	Dept. Of Public Health and Human Services
Mr. William Jameson, MSU	Electrical Engineering Department
Mr. Scott Waldron, Chief	Montana Fire Chiefs Association
Mr. Mike Brown, 9-1-1 Director	Gallatin County/Bozeman
Mr. Lloyd Jackson, Tribal Disaster Emergency Coordinator	Flathead Nation

Continued from Page 6:

The Council's first meeting was held January 15, 1998. Council meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of every month.

The first meetings will be held in Helena with later meetings moving around the state to allow for local input to the process of developing a state shared radio system.

The Council has formed four subcommittees to begin its work. The subcommittees are:

Governance/Administration:

Lois Menzies, Chair

Infrastructure Financial:

Mike Griffith, Chair

Local Government Financial:

Tony Herbert, Chair

Technical:

William Jameson, Chair

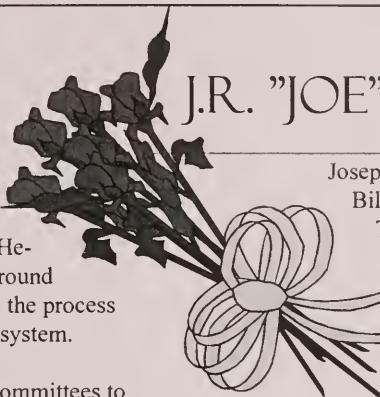
For more information regarding the **MON-TANA PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO PROJECT** or the **MONTANA PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL** contact:

Mike Bloom or Ron Haraseth
Public Safety Communications
Department of Administration
Information services Division

125 N. Roberts
Helena, MT 59620
(406) 444-2700

Contributed by:
Homer Young
Communications/
Computer Specialist

J.R. "JOE" HICKEY



Joseph R. Hickey of Billings passed away Thursday, February 19, 1998, at the Aspen Meadows Nursing Home. He was 82.

Mr. Hickey worked for the State Disaster and Emergency Services Division serving as the District III Representative from Sept. 1, 1966 through July 23, 1982 when he retired.

He is survived by his wife, Fern of Billings; three sons and their wives, Jim and Kathy Hickey of Seattle, Dan and Lindalee Hickey of Billings, and John and Judy Hickey of Bozeman; seven grandchildren, Laura Hickey of Big Sky, Daniel and Ryan Hickey of Seattle, Sara and Jeff Hickey of Bozeman, and Kaitlin and Joe Hickey of Billings; two sisters, June Nesson of Moore and Helen Barber of Big Timber; one brother, Ned Hickey of Moore; and many many nieces and nephews and friends whom he enjoyed immensely.

Memorials may be sent to:

BACET
P.O. Box 31158
Billings, MT 59107

OR:

Holy Rosary Church
501 Custer Avenue
Billings, MT 59101

This home page, a joint effort of the American Red Cross, the IBM Corporation Dan CNN, offers much background information about disasters, disaster relief and disaster preparedness, as well as news about ongoing and recent events.

ATTENTION

Please Note: The State Disaster and Office will have a new phone number. The number will change from 444-6911

☎ (406) 841-3

New Coordinator

POWDER RIVER COUNTY

New Coordinator:

David Lancaster
P.O. Box 487
Broadus, MT 59317

Bus: ☎ (406) 436-2531

County Updates

BEAVERHEAD COUNTY

Larry Laknar Cell Phone: 660-1510

CARBON COUNTY

Mike Fahley Cell Phone: 425-0120

FALLON & PRAIRIE COUNTIES

Debra Ranum's New Work Phone: 778-7167

GALLATIN COUNTY

Mike Hoey Home: 587-2090
CELL: 581-0015

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Sheriff's Office 24 Hour #: 225-4075

MUSSELSHELL COUNTY

Kirby Danielson CELL: 320-1372

PARK COUNTY

Deputy: Cheryl John Home: 686-4786

STILLWATER COUNTY

Business Phone: 322-9943
CELL: 321-0259

IMPORTANT N

DES Bulletin

HOLIDAY

March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 20	1st Day of Spring
April 10	Good Friday
April 12	Easter Sunday
May 10	Mother's Day
May 25	Memorial Day



ON!!

Emergency Services
beginning March 15.

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board!

S!

Resources

The National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) at Boulder, Colorado, was established in 1965. It is one of three national data and information centers of NOAA's National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service. NGDC combines in a single center data activities in the fields of marine geology and geophysics, paleoclimatology, ecosystems, the environment, solar-terrestrial physics, and solid earth geophysics. Their archives contain more than 300 digital and analog data bases.

The following addresses can be used to access information about data and products available from the National Geophysical Data Center. Titles of CD-Roms, slides sets, posters, maps, publications, and listings of many of the geophysical products available are included.

<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov>

OR:

Write to obtain your own brochure.
DOC/NOAA/NESDIS
National Geophysical Data Center
325 Broadway, Dept. ORD
Boulder, CO 80303-3328



Get it online!

For State of Montana High Cost Allowances:

<http://www.policyworks.gov/org/main/mt/homepage/mtt/perdiem/travel.shtml>

e-mail Updates:

Silver Bow County wpuich@usa.net
DES District IV normp@mail.midrivers.com

If you are traveling for work or pleasure, check out this site. It has some great tips on lowering your airfare costs - where to go, when and why - viewing your itinerary - the best places to stay - and even a currency converter and weather watch.

www.expedia.com



From the San Francisco Chronicle:

RETROFITTING REPLACES INSURANCE FOR SOME PEOPLE

After the Loma Prieta quake of 1989, retrofitting was a hot topic. Bay Area residents could clearly see the damage big quakes can do to unreinforced homes. But the memory of the '89 quake quickly faded. Mother Nature gave us another wake-up call with the 1994 Northridge quake. The damage from that disaster was so severe that many insurance companies took a huge financial loss and decided to no longer offer earthquake coverage to new customers.

In 1996, to help homeowners get coverage, the state chartered the California Earthquake Authority (CEA) to guarantee insurance coverage to all who wanted it. But many homeowners have been offered less coverage for more money. According to the CEA, rates for 44% of policyholders decreased, but stayed the same or increased for the other 56%.

Premiums run about \$200 to \$800 a year (\$500 is the state average) for every \$100,000 worth of quake coverage, depending on the location, the age and the type of home. CEA policies also carry a 15 percent deductible, instead of the 10 percent deductible many earthquake policies used to offer. Damage for a \$250,000 house, for example, would have to exceed \$37,500 before insurance would kick in. Only structural damage to the home is covered and there is a cap of \$5,000 of damage to personal property such as furnishings.

Unlike fire and flood insurance, earthquake insurance isn't required for most mortgages, so some homeowners have decided to just take their chances and drop their earthquake coverage.

For these people, retrofitting becomes the ultimate insurance.

RETROFITTING VOCABULARY

Here are a few terms you'll need to know to research a retrofitting project or talk intelligently with a contractor.

--Anchor bolts: Bolts that attach walls to foundation and help keep the home from sliding off its foundation during quakes.

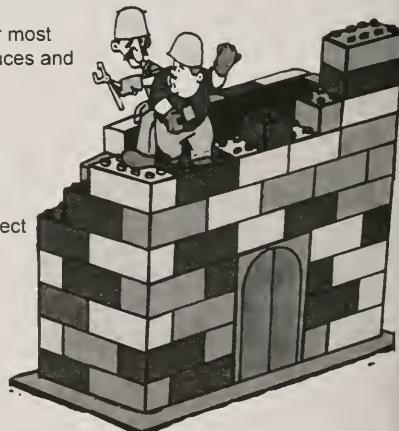
--Cripple walls: Usually refers to the walls between the foundation and the first floor.

--Floorboards: The floorboards hold the floor joists in place.

--Floor joists: These beams, resting on girders, are the supports directly under the floor.

--Mudsill: Also known as the foundation sill or sill plate. It is the lowest piece of wood in the home and acts as the final connection between wood and the concrete foundation.

--Shear walls: Walls, usually made of structural plywood, used to strengthen a home.



In comparison, earthquake insurance in Montana is less expensive and the policies are more reasonable. Call your agent to see if they offer earthquake insurance. (It is available through State Farm.) You may be surprised at how inexpensive it is to insure your home from earthquake damage.

Is your MONEY Worth Money?

Excerpted from Bottom Line, December 15, 1997, Volume 18, Number 24

What is your money worth? It may be more than you think.



PENNIES:

§ **1955 doubled-die cent** is easiest to see when you look at the date on the coin. As always, the value depends on the condition, but it could be worth \$300.

§

§ **1972 doubled-die cent.** The "In God We Trust" motto at the top of the cent is double-struck along with the date. Value: \$50 to \$225.

§

§ **1984 doubled-die cent.** Here, Lincoln's ear has been struck twice. Value: \$125 to \$150

§

§ **1995 doubled die cent.** The word "Liberty" on the front of the coin has the error. Value: \$20 to \$40.

§

§ **Old Pennies.** Some old Lincoln cents in circulated condition are valuable even without errors. Best: 1909, with S stamped below the date and VDB located at the bottom center on the reverse/\$300...1914 D/\$50 to \$75...1922 (no mint mark)/\$200...1931 S/\$40 to \$50.

NICKEL:

§ **1950 D Jefferson nickel.** Nothing is wrong with this coin, but its rarity makes it worth about \$3.



HALF DOLLARS:

§ **1964 doubled-reverse Kennedy half dollar.** The back of the coin has been struck twice. Value \$50 to \$75.

§

§ **1974 D doubled Kennedy half-dollar.** The error is in the "In God We Trust" motto and on the "D" signifying the coin's origin at the Denver mint. Value: \$35.

PAPER MONEY:

ATMs and banks often dispense bills that have extra value. EXAMPLES:

§ **Bills that are double-printed on the face or the back.** Value: \$100 or more. Bills that are miscut/\$35 or more.

§

§ **Serial numbers on the left and right sides of the bill that don't match.** Value: \$75 or more.

§

§ **The face or back of the bill is blank.** A tip here is to save the two notes before and after the blank bill, if that is possible. Value: About \$100 for a \$1 or \$5 bill.

§

§ **The king of errors is to find a bill with one denomination on one side and a different denomination on the other - such as the face of a \$5 and the back of a \$10.** Depending on the condition, the value would be \$2000 or more.



Disaster Costs Rise

States spent \$2 billion in fiscal 1996 to prepare for and respond to disasters, according to the Council of State Governments. Its 1997 report on State Emergency Management Funding Structures shows that state disaster spending has risen dramatically since 1992. Survey data from 44 states show that state spending on emergency planning and response climbed by 79 percent. State spending on reducing risk of disasters grew by 440 percent since 1992. While states are spending more to deal with disasters, emergency management still represents on average less than 1% of the overall state budget. Copies of the report are available for \$35 by calling the Council of State Governments Publications Sales at (800) 800 1910.

NCEER LAUNCHES CUSTOMIZED EXPRESS NEWS!

The NCEER Information Service announces Express News (ENews). ENews is a customized, electronic service that alerts readers to earthquake/hazards information selected from the most recent NCEER Information Service News based on a reader's self-defined interest profile. Each month ENews will:

- Provide e-mail notification that the latest issue of the NCEER Information Service News has been published on the Web
- Provide a list of article titles, publications, and meetings from the News that pertain to the reader's professional and research interests
- Create and update a personal ENews web page for each subscriber.

NCEER Continued:

The ENews personal page will contain the full text of information selected from the News based on the reader's self-defined interest profile and will include: news articles; conference announcements and calls for papers; reviews and ordering information for new publications; and literature searches. Again, ENews will contain only excerpts from the news that pertain to subject interests the reader has specified in his or her profile.

To subscribe to ENews, just go to:

<http://nceer.eng.buffalo.edu/enews>

Doubt It?

Doubt Vs. Faith

Doubt sees the obstacles
Faith sees the way.

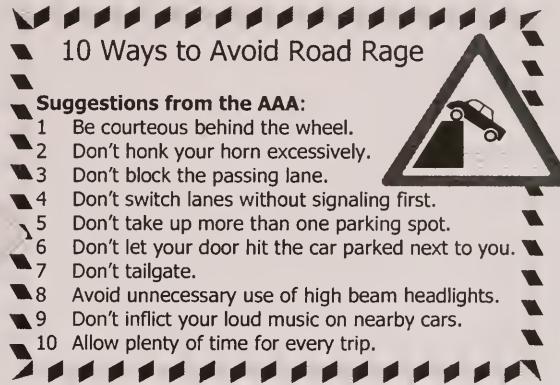
Doubt sees the darkest night
Faith sees the day.

Doubt dreads to take a step.
Faith soars on high.

Doubt questions, "Who believes?"
Faith answers, "I."



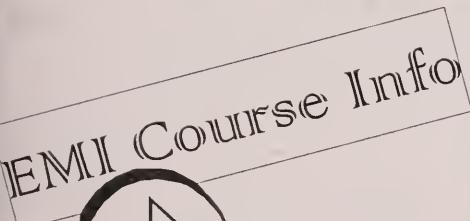
Anger and driving don't mix. Behind the wheel is no place for aggression. But more and more people are letting their emotions get the best of them. One report states that during the first six years of this decade, over 10,000 incidents of road rage were reported. People zigzagging in and out of traffic. Someone cutting someone else off. Tailgating for long distances. All of these can lead to collisions, disputes, even death. Impatience is one of the prime causes. It leads to risk-taking, which can lead to discourteous driving, which can lead to disputes. Being more patient behind the wheel will go a long way toward keeping you out of the way of road rage.



10 Ways to Avoid Road Rage

Suggestions from the AAA:

- 1 Be courteous behind the wheel.
- 2 Don't honk your horn excessively.
- 3 Don't block the passing lane.
- 4 Don't switch lanes without signaling first.
- 5 Don't take up more than one parking spot.
- 6 Don't let your door hit the car parked next to you.
- 7 Don't tailgate.
- 8 Avoid unnecessary use of high beam headlights.
- 9 Don't inflict your loud music on nearby cars.
- 10 Allow plenty of time for every trip.



March 16-20, 1998
April 20-24, 1998

Multi-Hazard Safety Program for Schools

This is a 4½ day course designed to help participants recognize the need to plan for all types of disasters, both natural and technological. All those involved in a school or school district have a moral and legal obligation to ensure the safety of every student in the even to of a disaster. Along with providing a rationale for developing a safety program for schools, this course provides participants with the tools to write and implement a program for their own schools. Since planning is a process, planning is included in every unit and/or activity. Topics include risk reduction techniques, drills, immediate response exercises, post-disaster recovery and mitigation opportunities, school violence, crisis counseling, and the importance and need for creating a positive linkage between education and emergency management.

This course is designed for: principals, administrators, teachers, PTA members, school board members, district executives, community (fire, police, planners, members of the local emergency response network), school support staff, transportation coordinators, school district faculty and risk managers, and others concerned with the physical plant and operations of a school. If you qualify and are interested, please contact your local County Coordinator or Emergency Manager, or the State DES Office at (406) 444-6911.

FCC Radio License Renewals

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) now has electronic filing available for renewal of your Public Safety Radio Licenses. The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau has consolidated eight renewal forms into one generic renewal form called the Electronic Renewal Form, FCC Form 900. This form may only be submitted electronically. The FCC Form 900 was developed as an interim measure to allow all wireless licensees the ability to renew their licenses electronically.

Only licensees who have licenses that are within the 120-day renewal window can access their call sign and submit a renewal application. The electronic FCC Form 900 **cannot** be used to file for a renewal if the license is expired.

Electronic filing is available on the FCC's WTB Electronic Commerce page on the Internet at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/electcom.html>. Once you are at this page click on "Electronic Forms" then click on "Electronic Renewal Form (Form 900)." Enter your call sign and click on the "Continue" button to access the Form 900. Most of the information regarding your license will already be on the Form 900. Filing instructions are available for each item by

clicking on the item number on the electronic form. Please note some fields are required,

some fields cannot be changed, some may need to be updated, and some may not apply to your license so

review the Form 900 and the instructions carefully. Remember there is no renewal fee required for a Governmental Entity, so be sure that the **Governmental Entity** is marked under **Item 6** on the Form 900.

Electronic filing is available on the FCC's WTB Electronic Commerce page on the Internet at

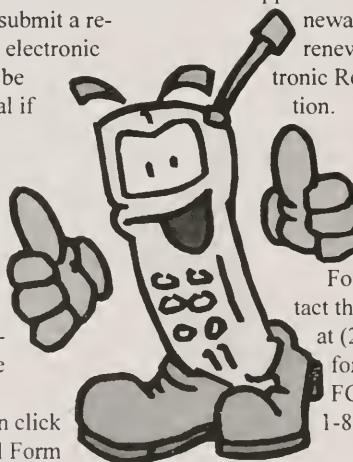
<http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/electcom.html>

Applications filed using the electronic renewal process can also be queried for renewal status by clicking on Electronic Renewal Query at this web site location.

Comments about the FCC Form 900 maybe e-mailed to sreed@fcc.gov.

For technical assistance please contact the FCC Technical Support Group at (202) 414-1250. Other general information may be obtained from the FCC's National Call Center at 1-888-225-5322.

Contributed by:
Homer Young
Commo/Computer Specialist

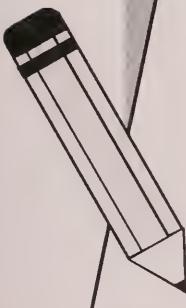


Thank You!

Dear Jim Greene:

The Coordinators in District IV would like to thank you for your continuous and striving efforts to address all of our concerns throughout the re-districting project. We realize that you cannot please all of the people all of the time. However, you have made repeated attempts towards this effort and with time we will all realize that the redistricting was in the best interest for each coordinator.

Thank you
District IV Coordinators





State of Montana

Disaster & Emergency Services Division
P.O. Box 4789
1100 North Main
Helena, Montana 59604-4789

•(406) 444-8911

fax (406) 444-6965

 **First Class Mail**



Happy
St. Patrick's
Day

*Montana State Documents
Distribution Center
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DEADHEAD MAIL*

The Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Disaster and Emergency Services Division. It is funded, in part, by a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Contributions of articles and ideas are welcome and encouraged. The deadlines for submitting articles for the 1997 editions are: February 15 for the March issue; May 15 for the June issue; August 15 for the September issue and November 15 for the December issue. The editor reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. The articles in this newsletter do not constitute official policy.

Questions regarding articles may be addressed to:

DES Newsletter Editor, Monique T. Lay
1100 North Main
P.O. Box 4789
Helena, Montana 59604-4789

•(406) 444-6963
•(406) 444-6965
□ mlay@mt.gov

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